

**International Education Committee
Faculty Senate
Annual Report 2020-21**

Academic Year 2020-21 saw an interruption in international higher education world-wide that was unprecedented. Global mobility of faculty and students; international conferences and research; international recruitment; development of joint degree and research processes; and many other international activities were halted worldwide as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic.

At Salisbury University, the International Education Committee of the Faculty Senate did not pursue any particular strategic priority from the current international education strategic plan, "From Coastal Maryland to the World". However, the committee continue to provide advice and consent on numerous strategies to keep international education moving forward during the global pandemic. The following initiatives were the most important during AY 2020-21.

EDUCATION ABROAD

PRIORITY: 1

Recommended Action:

Raise \$1 million in the upcoming capital campaign for scholarships for education abroad.

Responsible Unit: SU Foundation

Time Line: 2020

While we are likely to fall short of this goal at the end of the current capital campaign, during AY 2020-21 we reached seven different fully endowed study abroad scholarships held by the Salisbury University Foundation.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

PRIORITY: 2

Recommended Action:

Establish Teaching for Global Diversity faculty professional development program, offering small stipends for faculty to pursue a semester-long curriculum focused on teaching students who are non-native speakers of English and who come from foreign cultures.

Responsible Unit:

- Center for International Education
- English Language Institute

Time Line: 2018

The Teaching with International Students (TWINS) faculty learning community was refunded for a second year at the end of 2021.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

PRIORITY: 3

Recommended Action:

Continue to invest in and support the growth of the English Language Institute, including the hiring of a new full-time Director.

Responsible Unit:

Center for International Education

Time Line: 2017

The ELI branched out in two innovative ways during the pandemic. First, the ELI began to teach online English classes outside the regular Academic English ELI curriculum for groups of students from China. The ELI taught 300 students each semester during AY 2020-21. Through new contracts, the ELI is teaching another 150 students each semester during AY 2021-22. In addition, the ELI offered its full-time Academic English ELI curriculum totally online to a cohort of 15 students, allowing them to continue their progress towards the 2+2 program completion in Economics at SU. Secondly, the ELI developed and began teaching a free class to adult learners in our local immigrant community. Both of the new initiatives outside the Academic English curriculum demonstrated the need to renumber the ELI curriculum and pursue a strategy to get Continuing Education Unit (CEU) courses approved at the university level. This process will continue in AY 2021-22

GLOBAL LEARNING

There is no strategic priority under the Goal: Global Learning that is identified to internationalize on-campus courses by means of embedded learning activities carried out online with our university partners around the world. While such Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) initiatives are well-established at the University of Maryland, College Park, and are common in the SUNY system, Salisbury University had not identified this strategy as a priority. During the global pandemic hundreds of SU students had international activities embedded in their regular classes thanks to projects undertaken by about a dozen different members of the faculty. These new “Globally Enhanced Courses” are not identified in Gullnet, do not appear in the internationalization strategic plan, and have no funding set aside for their support. However, they were excellent global learning initiatives during AY 2020-21. Numerous Global Enhanced Courses will be offered during AY 2021-22.

GLOBAL PARTNERS

PRIORITY: 2

Recommended Action:

Actively seek new partnerships to rectify historic weaknesses in Africa and South Asia.

Responsible Unit:

- Center for International Education

Time Line: 2018

As the global pandemic ground global mobility to a halt, SU was in the process of signing Memorandum of Understanding with several new partners. During the pandemic this work continued. SU signed new general MOU's with the University of Cape Coast (UCC), Cape Coast, Ghana and the Kaimosi University Friends College (KAFUCO), Kaimosi, Kenya. We also finalized a bilateral student exchange program with UCC. In addition, we added bilateral exchange partnerships with Universidad del Norte (UniNorte), Barranquilla, Colombia, Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU), Tokyo, Japan, and Linköping University (LU), Linköping, Sweden. We signed new general MOU's also with Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU), Gandhinagar, India, and the University of Greenwich (UG), Greenwich England. Finally, we signed a general MOU with a long-term partner in Central America, the Roatan Institute for Marine Sciences (RIMS). RIMS has been a long-term partner for a global seminar offered out of Biology but holds additional potential for internships in Environmental Studies, Biology, and Business as well as global seminars for Outdoor Education Leadership.

SU began (or continued) but was not able to complete three potentially highly impactful partnership activities during AY 2020-21. Negotiations with the Universidad del Norte on a new 3+1 dual degree

program in IDIS began during AY 2019-20 and continued during AY 2020-21. We began a collaborative application with University of Cape Coast to host a Fulbright Scholar in Residence in the School of Nursing during AY 2022-23. Finally, we began negotiations with the National Student Exchange (NSE) that will provide SU students the opportunity for a semester of exchange at 150+ universities inside the USA, more than a dozen universities in Canada, and select universities in US territories in Guam, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. We hope to complete all three of these negotiations during AY 2021-22.